In the Claims:

Please amend claims 7 and 14 as follows:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of applying a sealing material, comprising the steps of:

pulverizing a rubber base sealing material with a viscosity of 20 to 200Pa·s/100°C into a powdered material at a temperature lower than, or equal to, a brittle temperature of the rubber base sealing material;

subsequently applying the powdered material to a surface which is ~~intended to be~~spray coated with the sealing material, and

wherein the surface which is ~~intended to be~~spray coated with the sealing material is the inner surface of a pneumatic tire.

8. (Original) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the rubber base sealing material comprises butyl rubber.

9. (Original) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 8, wherein the rubber base sealing material further includes polybutene.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the temperature lower than, or equal to, the brittle temperature of the rubber base sealing material is lower than the brittle temperature by 10°C or more.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the diameter of a particle of the powdered material is 3μm to 8μm.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the rubber base sealing material is pulverized at a temperature lower than, or equal to, the brittle temperature of the rubber base sealing material under an atmosphere of liquid nitrogen.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of applying a sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the temperature of the inner surface of the pneumatic tire which is ~~intended to be~~spray coated with the sealing material is not lower than 20°C, and not higher than 60°C.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of applying the sealing material according to claim 7, wherein the viscosity of the rubber base sealing material is in a range of 80 to 140 Pa · s/100 °C.